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Management of Bulk Petroleum in USEUCOM

Insert new Chapter 10.

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This Change changes USEUCOM Directive 63-1, dated 7 February 1997.

Chapter 10

Role Specialist Nation (RSN) Operations

1. RSN Definition. When one country assumes the responsibility for procuring a particular class of supply or service for all or part of a multinational force, that country becomes the Role Specialist Nation (RSN) for that particular class of supply or service. This chapter provides guidance for only Class III Bulk petroleum operations.

2. RSN Concept.

a. Limits competition among deployed national forces for scarce resources. In a theater of operations, one lead nation can achieve economies of scale by providing key logistics support to all or part of a multinational force.

b. Allows for control of unique materiel logistics assets in operations where regional or host nation supplies are limited. With RSN, one centralized organization is responsible for buying the commodity, moving it where and when it is needed and providing any support to maintain the commodity, while maintaining theater visibility and accountability. It allows the Alliance or Coalition Commander to set priorities.

c. Provides support to nations having limited deployable logistics infrastructure. Countries with limited deployable assets/personnel can focus on operations rather than negotiating logistics.

d. Provides an economic advantage to the multinational force. One customer instead of many provides leverage for influencing prices and discourages overpricing of fuel.

e. Encompasses providing procurement and contractor delivery of bulk fuels as far forward as contractor will support or may require participating nations to pick up from a supply point using organic assets.

f. The decision to assume RSN may be based on economics, politics, force cap or other considerations. Before the U.S. can accept the RSN mission for any commodity or service it must have Joint Staff (JS) approval.

3. The RSN Process. The process for RSN is case dependent and will vary depending on the nations involved, area of operations, and mission.

a. The following general concept assumes that the U.S. will conduct the RSN mission:

(1) In multinational operations the Alliance (i.e. NATO) or Coalition Headquarters will request a nation to assume RSN for a commodity through the Statement of Requirements (SOR) process. The U.S. may volunteer and assume RSN mission, after receiving JS approval.

(2) Following JS approval, the USEUCOM Joint Petroleum Office (JPO), Defense Energy Support Center (DESC) and Defense Energy Support Center Europe (DESC-Europe) initiates detailed RSN planning.

(3) An RSN funding, pricing, and reimbursement mechanism will be established (i.e., Foreign Military Sales (FMS), Replacement-in-Kind (RIK), Acquisition Cross-Service Agreement (ACSA), etc).

(4) A coordination and planning meeting with all involved nations will be conducted. Purpose is to establish a coordination center, reporting requirements and procedures, roles and missions. Standardization and interoperability issues between allies, coalition partners and other participating nations, and firm national requirements will be agreed to at this meeting.

(5) The RSN mission may encompass not only procurement, but also delivery, storage, and quality control of the commodity.

(6) JPO may establish a Sub-Area Petroleum Office (SAPO) to manage and oversee petroleum operations.

(7) DESC may establish Defense Fuel Offices, as required, to manage day-to-day RSN operations.

(8) DESC establishes contracts for bulk fuel and delivery.

b. The following general concept assumes that another Alliance/Coalition member will assume the RSN role and the U.S. will participate:

(1) In multinational operations the Alliance or Coalition Headquarters will request a nation to assume RSN for a commodity and another nation commits to assume the RSN lead for that commodity.

(2) An RSN funding, pricing, and reimbursement mechanism will be established (i.e., ACSA, FMS, RIK, etc).

(3) A coordination and planning meeting with all involved nations is recommended. Purpose is to establish a coordination center, reporting requirements and procedures, roles and missions. Standardization and interoperability issues between allies, coalition partners and other participating nations, and firm national requirements will be agreed to at this meeting.

(4) JPO may establish a SAPO to monitor the U.S fuel resupply.

4. Summary.

a. All operations involving RSN will be unique as RSN support concepts continue to develop. RSN responsibilities, techniques, and procedures must evolve as U.S. and alliance/coalition/multinational doctrine emerges.

b. Due to the unique nature of RSN operations, JPO will provide additional detailed guidance on a case by case basis after coordination with JS, DESC, and applicable Executive Agency/Components.